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May 1, 1969

J. A. Kemp & Co.
14, South Square
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London, W.C. 1 England

Re: British Patent Application No. 57606/67
Corresponding to U. S. Serial No. 609,204
Our File 582-454 Great Britain Philip Morris Inc.
Your Folio A/11770:CJW

Dear Sirs:

We have received your letter of March 6, 1969, relating to the above patent application and the Official Letter which has issued from the Patent Office relating to the same. Please prepare and file an amendment in this case at the earliest convenient date and in accordance with the instructions contained in this letter. As a preliminary, please note that the United States case was patented on December 10, 1968 as U. S. Patent 3,415,253, and contains all of the claims as originally filed in Great Britain without change.

Turning now to the Official Letter, you are authorized to revise the claims presently on file to bring them into line with the requirements of British practice and to overcome any objections raised by the Examiner. Moreover, you should carefully review and revise the description as required to bring it into line with the claims and the objects of the invention. In connection with the claims, no prior art was applied against any of the claims in the United States case, and we know of none which would have any bearing on the scope of the claims presently on file in this case.

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In connection with the comment made by you in the first paragraph of Page 2 of your letter and relating to the 7th and 8th paragraphs of the Official Letter, we believe the description on Page 16, Line 9 through Page 18, Line 9 covers this. You will note undoubtedly that "process liquid" is intended to denote a liquid which has been filtered, clarified, etc. to the extent that as much as possible of the insolubles therein have been removed. Obviously, some insoluble materials will remain in the liquid but these are of such minor quantity as to make the "process liquid" for practical purposes devoid of insolubles.

Please make whatever deletions are required to comply with Paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Official Letter.

In connection with the 11th paragraph of the Official Letter and in connection with the utilization of reference numeral 10 in Figure 1, you are authorized to proceed as you proposed.

In connection with the drawings, there are a couple of printing errors which should be corrected. The reference numeral 124 in Figure 1 indicating the clarifier above Tank 126 should be changed to "224" and also in the specification. Similarly, the collection vessel 120 to which lines 152, 114a, 110a and 131 are connected should be changed to "220". The foregoing is necessary to avoid duplication in the spec and drawings.

With regard to Paragraph 13 of the Official Letter, we approve of your proposed manner of answering this.

In connection with Table 3, it is proposed that the last line of the table be cancelled. "RTD" is a commonly used term in the tobacco art meaning resistance to draw through cigarette measured in inches of water.

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"Filling Power Index" is a measure of how well tobacco will fill a cigarette cylinder. Its units are cubic centimeters and it is determined by placing 10 grams of tobacco filler in a 250 ml. graduated cylinder and placing a 3.5 lb. weight on top. After five minutes, the volume of the compressed filler is read.

The full names of the inventors are:

Henry Bolway Merritt and
Don Glenn Michels.

We trust that the above will enable you to proceed with the filing of the necessary response; if you require further information, let us know.

Very truly yours,

George J. Brandt, Jr.

GJB:as

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